



**Delaware State Arts Council Meeting Minutes**  
**December 13, 2017**  
**10 a.m. to 12 p.m.**  
**Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library– Hawkes Center**  
**5105 Kennett Pike, Winterthur, DE**

**Attending:** Council: Mack Wathen (Chair), Tina Betz, Donna Blakey, Lori Crawford, David Fleming, Janis Julian, Michael Kalmbach, Heather Morrissey, Michael Quattrocchio, Dan Shelton

Staff: Paul Weagraff, Kristin Pleasanton, Sheila Ross, Katie West, Roxanne Stanulis, Dana Wise, Gwen Henderson, Leeann Wallett

Public: Jeff Groff, Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library, Director of Interpretations; Melissa Froemming, Wilmington Resident. Arriving at the end of the meeting for recognition: Ralph Kuebler, John Sarro, Guillermina Gonzalez, Laura Scanlan

**Absent:** Madeleine Bayard, Robert Fitzgerald, Mary Ann Miller, Cheryle Pringle

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m.

**Chair's Report – Mack Wathen**

Mr. Wathen introduced the newest council member, Dan Shelton, who is replacing Ralph Kuebler. He is the superintendent of the Capital School District and a resident of Newark.

The Council has two other appointments – Andy Horgan (photo journalist with DE air National Guard), replacing Jon Newsom and John Muller (theater director at Caesar Rodney H.S.), replacing John Sarro. They will both join the Council in March. A third appointment is pending, and should be finalized in the next few weeks.

Mr. Wathen reminded the Council that the legislative session is coming up again and he encouraged members to stay aware of what's going on, stay engaged and continue to advocate for the Arts.

One of the valuable tasks of Council members is to volunteer to conduct onsite evaluations. Mr. Wathen spoke of the opportunity to review the UD Master Players Concert Series (MPCS) Holiday Pops Concert. It was wonderful and eclectic, and included a guest artist that sounded just like Frank Sinatra. Mr. Wathen also noted that Xiang Gao, founder of UD MPCS, was featured in the UD magazine – *The Messenger* and in it they had a picture of his office at the university with some of the things that had the most meaning to him. One of the items was Gao's Governor's Arts Award, created by Council member Mike Quattrocchio. In the article, Gao talked about what an honor it was to receive it.

**Motion by David Fleming to approve minutes from the June 21, 2017 Council meeting – Second by Tina Betz – All in favor – None opposed.**

**Motion by Donna Blakey to approve minutes from September 20, 2017 Council Meeting – Second by Lori Crawford – All in favor – None opposed.**

**Director's Report – Paul Weagraff**

**eGrants**

As of December 1, 2017, FY2019 eGrant applications are now available online ([artsdel.egrant.net](http://artsdel.egrant.net)) for:

- General Operating Support (Full application and Interim Report)
- Arts Access (for small organizations)

- Arts Stabilization
- Education Resource
- StartUp
- Project Support

Notice was sent by email to all email contacts of FY2017 and FY2018 applicants and in Arts E-News. Information is posted on the Division website as well. The application deadline is March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Weagraff encouraged Council members to think of people in the community who might make good grant review panelists and to let the Division know. Staff members will follow-up with potential panelists with more information.

### **SmartSimple**

The Division of the Arts will be working over the next several months to replace its current grants management database (PEARL) and online grant system (eGrants.net). After 20 years of service, the technologies have become outdated and newer products provide much more capability and facility for both the Division and its grantees.

Katie West spearheaded a process of researching several vendors and talking to grants managers around the country who use various products. The Division has signed a contract with SmartSimple to develop these new systems, with a target date of July 1, 2018 for the revolving grants (ACC, AIR, OAE), and the FY2020 major grants (GOS, PS, EDR, ASF).

### **National Arts Program® Exhibition**

Sponsored by The National Arts Program® in support and cooperation with the State of Delaware and the Delaware Division of the Arts, this state employee art exhibition is judged by professional artists and visual art professionals in Amateur, Intermediate, Professional, and Youth classifications, and it is free to all. The exhibit is designed to give artists at all skill levels a unique opportunity to exhibit their creative work and to compete for cash prizes.

- **Public Exhibition:** February 26 - March 19, 2018  
On view in the Art Center/Gallery – Delaware State University  
1200 N. DuPont Highway, Dover, DE 19901  
Hours: Mon-Fri, 9:00a – 3:30p
- **Reception and Awards Ceremony:** March 18, 2018, 1:00 – 3:00p  
*(All dates are subject to change)*

### **Poetry Out Loud – February 27, 2018, Dover High School**

Twenty-eight schools have registered to participate this year, involving an estimated 2,000 high school students. Sheila Dean Ross is once again coordinating the program, with assistance from Joann Balingit. This year marks the 13<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the program, sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation. The Division receives, as part of its federal grant, funds to implement this program at the state level.

Due to the number of registered schools, the Division will hold semi-finals at the Milton Theatre for Kent & Sussex county schools on Tuesday, February 6, and at the Delaware Art Museum for the New Castle county schools on Wednesday, February 7.

### **Opportunity Grants**

See attached report of Artist Opportunity, Arts Access, and Artist Residency grants awarded to date this year.

In addition, nearly 30 schools have requested funding to take students to arts programs at various venues throughout the state.

### **Advocacy**

The Delaware Arts Alliance announced that their founding executive director, Guillermina Gonzalez, is stepping down at the end of 2017, after an 8-year tenure. Guillermina will be succeeded by Jessica Ball, who has been instrumental in DAA operations for the past several years.

### **For your calendar** (on the meeting agenda)

February 27, 2018; 7 to 9:30p	Poetry Out Loud – Dover High School
March 18, 2018; 1:00 to 3:00p	NAP (State Employee) Art Exhibit Reception
March 21, 2018; 10a to 12p	DSAC Meeting, Sussex County, TBD
May 4, 2018	Delaware Arts Advocacy Day in Dover
May 7 – 10, 2018	Grant review panels – Dover Public Library
June 20, 2018, 10a to 2p	DSAC Meeting, New Castle County, Buena Vista
September 19, 2018, 10a to 12p	DSAC Meeting, Kent County, TBD
December 12, 2018, 10a to 12p	DSAC Meeting, New Castle County, TBD

### **2017 Arts Summit Recap – Kristin Pleasanton**

Thanks to the council members who helped out and/or attended the Summit.

- 210 Attendees – about 15 or so less than the 2015 Summit
- Some elected and appointed officials attended this year
  - Secretary Bullock
  - First Lady Tracy Quillen-Carney
  - US Representative Lisa Blunt-Rochester
  - Lt. Governor Bethany Hall-Long
  - State Representative Harvey Kenton, Milford

Kristin Pleasanton reviewed survey responses from the Summit.

Mr. Weagraff added that the Division is being more proactive in reaching out to members of the General Assembly and also encouraging grantee organizations to reach out to their elected officials and to inform them of the arts activities throughout the state – to show the impact of the arts on their constituents and communities.

### **Roxanne Stanulis – 2018 Individual Artist Fellowship (IAF) Awards PowerPoint Presentation**

Ms. Stanulis reviewed the 2018 Artist Fellowship adjudication process. Rankings from the individual jurors were considered in developing a proposed list of recipients, trying to honor all represented disciplines with the highest scoring artist that the jurors recommended for funding.

In FY2018, there were 125 applications (124 juried) representing 18 artistic disciplines:

#### **Applications by Category**

- 59 – Emerging
- 61 – Established

- 5 – Masters

#### Applications by County

- 74 – New Castle
- 13 – Kent
- 38 – Sussex

#### Fellowship Candidates

- 8 – Emerging (\$3,000 award for artists who have not yet established reputations in their fields)
  - 3 – Literature
  - 1 – Media Arts
  - 1 – Music
  - 3 – Visual Arts
- 8 – Established (\$6,000 aware for artists who have significant achievements in their fields)
  - 1 – Choreography
  - 3 – Literature
  - 1 - Music
  - 3 – Visual Arts

- Ms. Stanulis presented the list of proposed recipients for a Council vote on IAF Emerging and Established Fellowship Categories:

❖ **Motion by Tina Betz to approve the recommendations of the jurors/staff – Second by Janis Julian – All in favor – None opposed.**

- 1 – Masters (\$10,000 award for artists who have made significant accomplishments in their fields and sustained history of artistic activity in Delaware)
  - 2 – Music: Composition
  - 3 – Music: Solo Recital
  - One applicant is under consideration; he received the highest score and was recommended for the Fellowship:
    - Lloyd Shorter – Music: Solo Recital

- Vote on IAF Master Fellowship Category:

❖ **Motion by David Fleming to approve the recommendations of the jurors/staff – Second by Janis Julian – All in favor – None opposed.**

At the conclusion of the meeting, the Division invited Ralph Kuebler, John Sarro, Guillermina Gonzalez, Laura Scanlan (formerly with NEA), and Beth Bienvenu (Accessibility Director w/ NEA) to have lunch with the Council and staff.

In addition, Mr. Kuebler and Mr. Sarro were recognized for their service to the Council. The Division and Council presented Guillermina Gonzalez with a gift for her contribution to the Arts, on the occasion of her departure from the Delaware Arts Alliance as executive director.

**Old Business - None**

**New Business – None**

**Public Comment**

- **Melissa Froemming, Wilmington Resident** - DCAD Student, background in community organizing, interested in the arts as an economic engine and supporting the arts community. She appreciated the opportunity to learn more about the Council and the broad range of arts activities statewide.
- **Jeff Groff, Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library, Director of Interpretations** - Mr. Groff gave an overview and presentation on Winterthur.

**Motion and second to adjourn meeting at 12:15pm - All in favor.**

**Lunch**